

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-6, and add new claims 11-20, as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A process for improving the printability of paper and paper products by enhancing the water resistance of ink-jet printed images, wherein said process comprises treating the paper or the paper products with an aqueous solution comprising a cationic polymer ~~solutions of cationic polymers~~, wherein the cationic polymer comprising polymer comprises positive charge providing units consisting essentially of vinylamine units, and having ~~has~~ a charge density of at least 3 meq/g ~~are and is~~ used as the sole treatment composition in the aqueous solution, wherein ~~and~~ said composition is applied in an amount of from 0.05 g/m² to 5 g/m² to the surface of the paper or the surface of the paper product.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the charge density of the cationic polymer ~~polymers comprising vinylamine units~~ is from 3.5 meq/g to 23 meq/g.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the charge density of the cationic polymer ~~polymers comprising vinylamine units~~ is from 8 meq/g to 20 meq/g.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the cationic polymer has ~~polymers comprising vinylamine units have~~ a molar mass M_w of at least 10,000 Dalton.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the ~~polymers comprising vinylamine units used are hydrolyzed homo- or copolymers~~ cationic polymer is a hydrolyzed homo- or copolymer of N-vinylformamide having a degree of hydrolysis of from 20 % to 100%.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the aqueous solution comprising the cationic polymer ~~of the polymers comprising vinylamine units~~ is applied to the paper or the paper product with the aid of a size press, a film press, a spraying means, a coating unit or a paper calender.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) A paper which is obtained by the process according to claim 1.

Claim 8 (Cancelled).

Claim 9 (Previously Presented) The paper according to claim 7, wherein said paper is an ink-jet printing paper.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) A paper product which is obtained by the process according to claim 1.

Claim 11 (New) The process according to claim 1, wherein the cationic polymer has a molar mass M_w of from 50,000 Dalton to 5,000,000 Dalton.

Claim 12 (New) The process according to claim 1, wherein the cationic polymer has a molar mass M_w of from 100,000 Dalton to 2,000,000 Dalton.

Claim 13 (New) The process according to claim 1, wherein the aqueous solution comprising the cationic polymer has a viscosity of 3,000 mPa·s or less at 20°C.

Claim 14 (New) The process according to claim 1, wherein the aqueous solution comprising the cationic polymer has a viscosity of 2,000 mPa·s or less at 20°C.

Claim 15 (New) The process according to claim 1, wherein the aqueous solution comprising the cationic polymer has a viscosity of from 10 mPa·s to 1,000 mPa·s at 20°C.

Claim 16 (New) The process according to claim 1, wherein the cationic polymer is applied to the paper in an amount of from 0.05 g/m² to 5 g/m².

Claim 17 (New) The process according to claim 1, wherein the cationic polymer is applied to the paper in an amount of from 0.1 g/m² to 3 g/m².

Claim 18 (New) The process according to claim 1, wherein the cationic polymer is applied to the paper in an amount of from 0.5 g/m² to 2 g/m².

Claim 19 (New) The process according to claim 1, wherein the cationic polymer is a hydrolyzed homo- or copolymer of N-vinylformamide having a degree of hydrolysis of from 30 % to 90%.

Claim 20 (New) The process according to claim 1, wherein the cationic polymer is a hydrolyzed homo- or copolymer of N-vinylformamide having a degree of hydrolysis of from 50 % to 75%.